

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

## PCT

### WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
see form PCT/ISA/220

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**  
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.  
PCT/US2008/087809

International filing date (day/month/year)  
19.12.2008

Priority date (day/month/year)  
28.12.2007

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC  
INV. G06F9/445 G07F17/32

Applicant  
IGT

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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Date of completion of  
this opinion

See form  
PCT/ISA/210

Authorized Officer

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
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**Box No. I Basis of the opinion**

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1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
  - ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
2. ☐ This opinion has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43bis.1(a))
3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material:
    - ☐ a sequence listing
    - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material:
    - ☐ on paper
    - ☐ in electronic form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing:
    - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
    - ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.
    - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
4. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
5. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	<u>6,12-15,36</u>
	No: Claims	<u>1-5,7-11,16-35,37-39</u>
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	<u>1-39</u>
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-39</u>
	No: Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations**

see separate sheet

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US 2007/270212 A1 (COCKERILLE WARNER R [US] ET AL) 22 November 2007 (2007-11-22)

D2: WO 02/32526 A (INT GAME TECH [US]) 25 April 2002 (2002-04-25)

D3: WO 2006/002084 A (WMS GAMING INC [US]; GAGNER MARK B [US]; WARD MATTHEW J [US]) 5 January 2006 (2006-01-05)

D4: US 2006/123391 A1 (LAI LAI-CHEN [TW]) 8 June 2006 (2006-06-08)

D5: ROBERT CHATLEY ET AL: "MagicBeans: a Platform for Deploying Plugin Components" COMPONENT DEPLOYMENT; [LECTURE NOTES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE;;LNCS], SPRINGER-VERLAG, BERLIN/HEIDELBERG, [Online] vol. 3083, 1 May 2004 (2004-05-01), pages 97-112, XP019006707 ISBN: 978-3-540-22059-6 Retrieved from the Internet:

URL:<http://pubs.doc.ic.ac.uk/MagicBeans/MagicBeans.pdf> [retrieved on 2009-02-13]

2. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1-39 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT and/or does not involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT.

3. The document D1 discloses:

A gaming system (Par.87), wherein said gaming system is configured and/or operable to:

- execute or cause the execution of a first modular computer program code for a game of chance to effectively provide said game of chance for playing on said gaming system (Fig.2A: Ref."A1"), wherein said first modular computer program code for said game of chance includes a plurality of gaming modules (Fig.2A: Ref.208) and is configured to receive at least one pluggable modular gaming modifier that can be integrated with and/or replace one or more of said plurality of gaming

modules of said first modular computer program code (Par.62-65; Fig.2A: Ref. "C3a"),

wherein said at least one pluggable modular gaming modifier can effectively modify and/or enhance one or more properties and/or behavior of said first modular computer program code to yield a modified modular computer program code for said game of chance, thereby allowing modifying and/or enhancing one or more properties and/or behavior of said first modular computer program code by effectively plugging said at least one pluggable modular gaming modifier into said first modular computer program code (Par.62-65; Fig.2A: Ref."C3b"); and execute or cause the execution of said modified modular computer program code for said game of chance to effectively provide a modified and/or enhanced version of said game of chance for playing on said gaming system (Par.64).

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

- 4.1 Dependent claims 2-22 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step, the reasons being as follows:  
The additional features of claims 2-22 are disclosed in document D1 (see e.g. paragraphs 62-75,87,106) and/or are well known to the skilled person. No surprising technical effect can be established.  
Other similar systems can be found in documents D2-D5.
- 4.2 The same reasoning applies, mutatis mutandis, to the subject-matter of claims 23-39, which therefore are also considered not new and/or inventive.